

Application No. 10/070,358
Attorney Docket: P-0258-US (KUR.on)

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A transaction coordinating device for coordinating an insertion of a spot transaction based on a temporary contract being made without respect to a fixed transaction based on a contract of predetermined term, said transaction coordinating device comprising:

wherein-a transportation adjusting portion for arranging an insertion of a cargoycargo transportation relating to said spot transaction into a predetermined schedule of a cargo transportation relating to said fixed transaction of predetermined term, said insertion being arranged by adjusting the predetermined schedule of cargoes-transportationsaid cargo transportation relating to said fixed transaction of predetermined term-is provided-term.

2. (Previously Presented) A transaction coordinating device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

a transportation data storing portion for storing data associated with said transportation, wherein

said transportation adjusting portion arranges an insertion of said cargo transportation of said spot transaction based on data associated with said transportation transmitted from said transportation data storing portion.

3. (Previously Presented) A transaction coordinating device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

a transportation data storing portion for storing data associated with said

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transportation; and

a conditions-of-transaction delivering portion for delivering conditions relating to said spot transaction from a party on one side of said spot transaction with respect to a party on the other side of said spot transaction, wherein

said transportation adjusting portion arranges an insertion of a cargo transportation of said spot transaction based on data associated with conditions of said spot transaction transmitted from said conditions-of-transaction delivering portion and said transportation transmitted from said transportation data storing portion.

4. (Previously Presented) A transaction coordinating device as claimed in claim 1, wherein:

said transportation adjusting portion arranges an adjustment of cargo transportations in a first transportation schedule by an insertion of a cargo transportation of said spot transaction without changing said first transportation schedule,

said transportation adjusting portion arranges an insertion of a cargo transportation of said spot transaction by changing said first transportation schedule in an event that the cargo transportation adjustment is impossible,

said transportation adjusting portion arranges an insertion of cargo transportation of said spot transaction by changing a second transportation schedule within a certain range in an event that the first transportation schedule changing is impossible, and

said transportation adjusting portion arranges an insertion of cargo transportation of said spot transaction by changing another transportation schedule within a range to which

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said certain range is expanded in an event that the second transportation schedule changing is impossible.

5. (Previously Presented) A transaction coordinating device as claimed in claim 1, wherein:

a commodity involved in said transaction comprises liquefied natural gas, and
containers containing said liquefied natural gas transported on a sea or on a road are used in said transportation.

6. (Previously Presented) A transaction coordinating device as claimed in claim 5 for coordinating an insertion of a cargo transportation of said spot transaction based on at least a predetermined number of days of operation and an actually required minimum number of days of operation of said cases.

7. (Previously Presented) A transaction coordinating system comprising:
the transaction coordinating device as claimed in claim 1; and
a terminal of a participant of said spot transaction connected to said transaction coordinating device via a communications circuit, wherein said spot transaction is conducted between said terminal operated by a participant of said spot transaction and said transaction coordinating device.

8. (Previously Presented) A transaction coordinating method applicable at inserting a

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spot transaction based on a temporary contract being made without respect to a fixed transaction based on a contract of predetermined term, said method comprising:

setting a schedule of cargo transportation relating to said fixed transaction; and, concurrently, storing data associated with transportation in advance;

reading the data associated with said transportation in an event said spot transaction arises;

and arranging an insertion of cargo transportation relating to said spot transaction by adjusting the schedule of cargo transportation relating to said fixed transaction based on the read data associated with said transportation.

9. (Previously Presented) A transaction coordinating method applicable at inserting a spot transaction based on a temporary contract made without respect to a fixed transaction based on a contract of predetermined term, said method comprising:

setting, in advance, a schedule of commodity transportation relating to said fixed transaction and storing data associated with transportation;

when a party on one side of said spot transaction inputs delivery conditions relating to said spot transaction with respect to a party on the other side of said spot transaction, reading data associated with said transportation and conditions of said spot transaction in an event that said spot transaction is organized based on delivery conditions of said spot transaction, and

arranging an insertion of cargo transportation of said spot transaction by adjusting the schedule of commodity transportation of said fixed transportation, based on the read data

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associated with said transportation and the conditions of said spot transaction.

10. (Previously Presented) A transaction coordinating method as claimed in claim 8, wherein an arrangement of insertion of cargo transportation of said spot transaction is conducted sequentially by:

a first stage of arranging an insertion of cargo transportation of said spot transaction without changing said transportation schedule,

a second stage of arranging an insertion of cargo transportation of said spot transaction by changing said transportation schedule, in an event that the first stage arrangement is impossible,

a third stage of arranging an insertion of cargo transportation of said spot transaction by changing another transportation schedule within a certain range, in an event that the first and second stage arrangements are impossible, and

a fourth stage of arranging an insertion of cargo transportation of said spot transaction by changing another transportation schedule within a range to which said certain range is expanded, in an event that the first, second and third stage arrangements are impossible.

11. (Previously Presented) A transaction coordinating method as claimed in claim 8, wherein a commodity involved in said transaction comprises a liquefied natural gas and containers containing said liquefied natural gas transported on a sea or on a road are used in said transportation.

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12. (Previously Presented) A transaction coordinating method as claimed in claim 11 for adjusting an insertion of cargo transportation of said spot transaction based on at least a predetermined number of days of operation and an actually required minimum number of days of operation of said containers.

13. (Previously Presented) An information recording medium on which is stored a program of instructions for inserting a spot transaction based on a temporary contract, said temporary contract being made without respect to a fixed transaction based on a contract of predetermined term, which program when executed causes the enactment of the steps of:
reading previously stored data associated with transportation in an event that said spot transaction arises, and

adjusting an insertion of cargo transaction relative to said spot transaction with respect to a schedule of cargo transportation relative to said fixed transaction of predetermined term, based on the read data associated with said transportation.

14. (Previously Presented) An information recording medium on which is stored a program of instructions for inserting a spot transaction based on a temporary contract, said temporary contract being made without respect to a fixed transaction based on a contract of predetermined term, wherein the program is stored for executing, on a digital device, steps of:
delivering conditions relative to said spot transaction from a party on one side of said spot transaction with respect to a party on an other side of said spot transaction;
reading previously stored data associated with a transportation and conditions of said

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spot transaction in an event that said spot transaction is organized based on the delivering conditions of said spot transaction, and

adjusting an insertion of a cargo transportation relative to said spot transaction with respect to a previously set schedule of cargo transportation relative to said fixed transaction based on the read data associated with said transportation and the contracts of said spot transaction.

15. (Previously Presented) An information recording medium as claimed in claim 13, wherein the program executes the adjustment of the insertion of cargo transportation of said spot transactions sequentially by:

a first step of adjusting the insertion of the cargo transportation of said spot transaction without changing said transportation schedule,

a second step of adjusting the insertion of the cargo transportation of said spot transaction by changing said transportation schedule, in an event that the first step is impossible,

a third step of adjusting the insertion of the cargo transportation of said spot transaction by changing another transportation schedule within a certain range, in an event that the second step is impossible, and

a fourth step of adjusting the insertion of the cargo transportation of said spot transaction by changing another transportation schedule within a range to which said certain range is expanded, in an event that the third step is impossible.

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16. (Previously Presented) An information recording medium as claimed in claim 13, wherein a commodity of said transaction comprises a liquefied natural gas and containers containing said liquefied natural gas transported on a sea or on a road are used in said transportation.

17. (Previously Presented) An information recording medium as claimed in claim 16 for adjusting the insertion of cargo transportation of said spot transaction as based on at least a predetermined number of days of operation and an actually required minimum number of days of operation of said containers.

18. (Previously Presented) A program product containing a computer program for inserting a spot transaction based on a temporary contract, said temporary contract being made without respect to a fixed transaction based on a contract of predetermined term, wherein:

a means for reading previously stored data associated with transportation in an event said spot transaction arises, and

a means for adjusting an insertion of cargo transportation relative to said spot transaction with respect to a previously set schedule of one or more of single and plural cargo transportations relative to said fixed transaction based on a read data associated with said transportation,

are provided in order to be executed in a computer.

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19. (Previously Presented) A program product for inserting a spot transaction based on a temporary contract, said temporary contract being made without respect to a fixed transaction based on a contract of predetermined term, wherein:

a means of delivering conditions relative to said spot transaction from a party on one side of said spot transaction with respect to a party on an other side of said spot transaction,

a means for reading previously stored data associated with transportation and conditions of said spot transaction in an event that said spot transaction is organized based on the delivered conditions of said spot transaction, and

a means for adjusting an insertion of cargo transportation relative to said spot transaction with respect to a schedule of one or more of single and plural cargo transportations relative to said preset fixed transportation based on the read data associated with said transportation and the conditions of said spot transaction are provided in order to be executed in a computer.

20. (Previously Presented) A program product as claimed in claim 18, wherein the program executes sequentially by:

a first means for adjusting the insertion of a cargo transportation of said spot transaction without changing said transportation schedule;

a second means for adjusting the insertion of a cargo transportation of said spot transaction by changing said transportation schedule, in an event that the first means adjustment is impossible,

a third means for adjusting the insertion of a cargo transportation of said spot

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transaction by changing another transportation schedule within a certain range, in an event that the second means adjustment is impossible, and

a fourth means for adjusting the insertion of a cargo transportation of said spot transaction by changing another transportation schedule within a range to which said certain range is expanded, in an event that the third means adjustment is impossible.

21. (Previously Presented) A program product as claimed in claim 20, wherein a commodity involved in said transaction comprises a liquefied natural gas and containers containing said liquefied natural gas transported on a sea or on a road are used in said transportation.

22. (Previously Presented) A program product as claimed in claim 21 for adjusting an insertion of cargo transportation of said spot transaction, as based on at least a predetermined number of days of operation and an actually required minimum number of days of operation of said containers.

23. (Previously Presented) A transaction coordinating system comprising the transaction coordinating device as claimed in claim 2 and a terminal of a participant of said spot transaction connected to said transaction coordinating device via a communications circuit, wherein

said spot transaction is conducted between said terminal operated by the participant of said spot transaction and said transaction coordinating device.

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24. (Previously Presented) A transaction coordinating system comprising the transaction coordinating device as claimed in claim 3 and a terminal of a participant of said spot transaction connected to said transaction coordinating device via a communications circuit, wherein

said spot transaction is conducted between said terminal operated by the participant of said spot transaction and said transaction coordinating device.

25. (Previously Presented) A transaction coordinating system comprising the transaction coordinating device as claimed in claim 4 and a terminal of a participant of said spot transaction connected to said transaction coordinating device via a communications circuit, wherein

said spot transaction is conducted between said terminal operated by the participant of said spot transaction and said transaction coordinating device.

26. (Previously Presented) A transaction coordinating system comprising the transaction coordinating device as claimed in claim 5 and a terminal of a participant of said spot transaction connected to said transaction coordinating device via a communications circuit, wherein

said spot transaction is conducted between said terminal operated by the participant of said spot transaction and said transaction coordinating device.

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27. (Previously Presented) A transaction coordinating system comprising the transaction coordinating device as claimed in claim 6 and a terminal of a participant of said spot transaction connected to said transaction coordinating device via a communications circuit, wherein

said spot transaction is conducted between said terminal operated by the participant of said spot transaction and said transaction coordinating device.